

REMARKS

Claims 1-43 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 4, 15, 16, 23, 25-27, 30, 31, 33, and 35-43 are amended herein.

As a preliminary matter, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in the present application. Accordingly, in this Amendment, Applicant has rewritten many of the claims so that all of the claims are now directed to allowable subject matter.

On page 2, ¶1 of the Office Action, the Examiner objects to claim 15 under 37 CFR § 1.75(c). In response, Applicant has amended claim 15 to put it in proper multiple dependent form.

Claims 1, 6-9, 11-14, 31, and 33-39 stand rejected under §102(e) as being anticipated by Faris et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,558,829). Applicant has amended claim 1 by including within claim 1 the limitation of claim 2 deemed allowable by the Examiner. Claims 6-9, 11-14, and 31, which all depend from claim 1, therefore inherit this limitation.

Similarly, Applicant has amended claim 33 by including within claim 33 the subject matter of claim 23 deemed allowable by the Examiner, namely, storing fuel in a fuel storage unit within a pressure range of about -5 (minus 5) psi to about 200 psi. Claims 35-39, as amended, all depend from claim 33 and therefore inherit the same limitation.

Claims 17-22 stand rejected under §103(a) for obviousness considering Faris et al. in view of Linden ("Handbook of Batteries", 2nd Ed.). Claim 24 stands rejected under §103(a) for obviousness considering Faris et al. in view of Hockaday. Claims 17-22 and 24 now depend from amended claim 1, and therefore inherit the subject matter of claim 1 deemed allowable.

Claim 40 stands rejected under §102(e) as being anticipated by Hockaday (U.S. Patent No. 6,326,097) in view of its teachings related to portable liquid-fueled fuel cells. Applicant has amended claim 40 to include the subject matter of claim 23 deemed allowable by the Examiner, namely, storing fuel in a fuel storage unit within a pressure range of about -5 (minus 5) psi to about 200 psi.

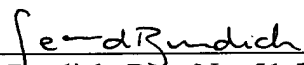
Claims 41-43 stand rejected under §103(a) for obviousness considering Hockaday in view of Linden. Applicant has amended claims 41-43 such that each depends properly from amended claim 40. Therefore, claims 41-43, as amended, include the allowable subject matter of claim 40.

In view of all of the above, Applicant believes that this application is in condition for allowance. The Examiner is therefore requested to allow all claims and pass this application to issuance.

In papers enclosed with this Response, Applicant has included authorization to charge Howrey Deposit Account No. 08-3038 for a one-month extension fee. Applicant believes no other fees are due. If any additional fees associated with this Response are in fact due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Howrey Deposit Account No. 08-3038 for the same referencing Howrey Dkt. No. 04813.0018.NPUS00.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 24, 2003


Sean D. Burdick, Reg. No. 51,513

HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE, LLP
301 Ravenswood Avenue
Box No. 34
Menlo Park, CA 94025
Fax No. (650) 463-8400
Telephone No. (949) 759-5219